

कार्यालय : मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी, उत्तराखण्ड
4 - सुभाष रोड, सचिवालय परिसर, देहरादून - 248001

फोन न० (0135) - 2712055, 2713551

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संख्या 196/XXV-19(3)/2008

देहरादून : दिनांक 02 मार्च, 2009

URGENT

सेवा में,

1. मण्डलायुक्त,
गढ़वाल/कुमायूँ।
2. समस्त जिलाधिकारी/
जिला निर्वाचन अधिकारी,
उत्तराखण्ड।

विषय:- लोक सभा के लिए सामान्य निर्वाचन, 2009-निर्वाचन की घोषणा के फलस्वरूप तत्काल प्रभाव से भारत निर्वाचन आयोग की आदर्श आचार संहिता का प्रभावी होना।

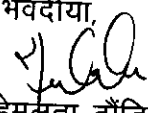
महोदय/महोदया,

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग द्वारा जारी प्रेस नोट संख्या ECI/PN/13/2009 दिनांक 02 मार्च, 2009 की प्रतिलिपि संलग्न करते हुए मुझे यह कहने का निदेश हुआ है कि आयोग द्वारा दिनांक 02 मार्च, 2009 को लोक सभा सामान्य निर्वाचन, 2009 की घोषणा कर दी गयी है। लोक सभा सामान्य निर्वाचन के घोषणा फलस्वरूप राज्य में तत्काल प्रभाव से भारत निर्वाचन आयोग की आदर्श आचार संहिता (Model Code of Conduct) प्रभावी हो गयी है। आदर्श आचार संहिता समस्त मा० मंत्रीगणों एवं दर्जा प्राप्त समस्त राज्य मंत्रियों पर भी तात्कालिक प्रभाव से लागू होगी।

भारत निर्वाचन आयोग की आदर्श आचार संहिता (Model Code of Conduct) की प्रति संलग्न है। कृपया भारत निर्वाचन आयोग की आदर्श आचार संहिता का अक्षरशः अनुपालन सुनिश्चित करने का कष्ट करें।

संलग्न-यथोपरि।

भवदीया,


(डा० हेमलता ढोंडियाल)
मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी

①

GENERAL ELECTIONS - 2009

SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS

**General Elections to Lok Sabha
and
State Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim**



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

**Nirvachan Sadan
Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110001**

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 110 001.

No. ECI/PN/13/2009

Dated: 2nd March, 2009

PRESS NOTE

SUBJECT: SCHEDULE FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS, 2009

The term of the 14th Lok Sabha will expire in the normal course on 1st June, 2009. In terms of the constitutional provisions, a new Lok Sabha is required to be constituted before the 2nd June, 2009.

2. In the course of assessment of the scheduling and phasing options available for the general elections, the Election Commission of India held a meeting with the representatives of all recognized National and State parties on 3rd February, 2009 to obtain their views on various issues connected with the general elections. The Commission also held a series of meetings with the Chief Secretaries, Directors General of Police and Chief Electoral Officers of all States with a view to assessing the law and order situation, the requirement of Central Police Forces (CPF) and to review the over all preparedness of the election machinery in the country.

3. The conduct of General Elections in the entire country requires considerable deployment of Central and State Police Forces. Mobilization, movement, deployment and disengagement of these forces involve a complex exercise and detailed home-work. Towards this, the officials of the Commission held detailed discussions with the representatives of the Home Ministry in several rounds. The full Commission had detailed discussions, on 6th February and 24th February, with the Union Home Secretary and other senior officers of the Ministry. The Commission also discussed with the Chairman, Railway Board and other senior officials about the inter-state movement plan for the transport of CPF and other police forces.

4. In the process of finalizing the election schedule the Commission has taken into account the schedules of school examinations, particularly the Central and State Board examinations, to avoid holding elections during examination period. Besides, polling stations are mostly located in school buildings. Hence, the Commission had to factor in the

examination schedules in various states before finalizing the poll dates. In addition, various holidays and festivals during the months of April and May, harvest season in certain parts of the country and the inputs taken from the India Meteorological Department in respect of coming monsoon have also been taken into account.

5. While deciding on the number of phases, number of poll days for each state and the composition of the states and constituencies that go to polls on a particular poll day, the Commission has taken various relevant aspects into consideration. The views expressed by various political parties as well as the State Governments have also been duly considered.

6. The Chief Secretaries and DGPs of various states have pointed out the need for the deployment of Central Police Forces to ensure peaceful, free and fair elections. The Commission has done a detailed exercise to assess the existing deployment of police forces in various states and the total availability of CPF for additional induction from outside the state and the time needed to move them from one state to another. While doing so, the Commission has also endeavored to minimize the crisscross movement of CPF and State Armed Police (SAP) as far as possible, so that their poll day utility is optimized.

7. The possible cross-border influences that could affect the peaceful conduct of elections in the constituencies located at either side of inter-state boundaries have been mapped and this aspect has also been factored in, to the extent possible, while deciding on the phasing and sequencing options.

DELIMITATION OF PARLIAMENTARY AND ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES

8. The extents of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies in all States (except Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur and Nagaland) have recently been re-determined by the Delimitation Commission set up under the Delimitation Act, 2002. By a Presidential Notification issued on 19th February, 2008, the Delimitation Orders of the Delimitation Commission have been made effective from the same date in all the States, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry (except the six States indicated above and Meghalaya and Tripura). In respect of the States of Meghalaya and Tripura, the

Delimitation Commission's orders took effect from 20th March, 2008. Thus the present General Elections to the Lok Sabha for 499 out of 543 Parliamentary Constituencies in all the States, NCT of Delhi and Union Territory of Puducherry (except Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Manipur and Nagaland) and to the State Legislative Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim will be held on the basis of the newly delimited constituencies.

ELECTORAL ROLLS

9. The electoral rolls of all States and Union Territories have been updated in terms of the aforesaid delimited constituencies, with reference to 1.1.2009 as the qualifying date and have been finally published in all States and Union Territories. However, the process of continuous updating will continue till the last date for filing nominations. **The total electorate in the country after this round of revision is approximately 714 million compared to 671 million in 2004. This marks an increase of 43 million in the electorate.**

PHOTO ELECTORAL ROLLS

10. This would be the first time when the entire country, except the three States of Assam, Nagaland and Jammu & Kashmir, would be using the Photo Electoral Rolls. Out of 543 Parliamentary Constituencies, photo electoral roll will be used in 522 Parliamentary Constituencies as well as in all the Legislative Assembly Constituencies in Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim and Orissa. Photographs of 82% electors are printed in the electoral rolls. This will prevent impersonation and facilitate easy identification.

11. The Commission introduced the concept of Photo Electoral Roll in 2005. This was tested as a pilot project during the 2005 revision in all the constituencies of Kerala and Puducherry, 2 constituencies of Haryana and 1 constituency each in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. On the successful completion of the pilot project, the Commission took the decision to conduct the 2009 general election to Lok Sabha using Photo Electoral Roll. The intervening general elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Kerala, Puducherry (2006),

Himachal Pradesh (2007), Meghalaya, Tripura, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Rajasthan, NCT of Delhi (2008) were conducted using Photo Electoral Rolls.

ELECTORS' PHOTO IDENTITY CARDS (EPIC)

12. As stated earlier, Photo Electoral Roll facilitates easy identification of voters. However, in consonance with the past practice, the Commission has decided that compulsory identification of voters will be made in the General Elections to the Lok Sabha and three State Legislative Assemblies and in the bye-elections to other Legislative Assemblies. Electors who have been provided with EPIC shall be identified through EPIC only. Special drive for issuing EPIC to the left out electors has considerably increased the percentage of EPIC coverage throughout the country (except Assam where the scheme could not be implemented so far) which now stands at an average of 82%.

13. All the residual electors are advised to obtain their Electors' Photo Identity Cards from the respective Electoral Registration Officers (ERO) urgently. The CEOs have been asked to invigorate the EPIC preparation and distribution campaign and enhance the coverage within next one month.

POLLING STATIONS

14. Presently there are 8,28,804 polling stations in the country, as compared to 6,87,402 polling stations during 2004 Lok Sabha elections. This marks an increase of 1,41,402 polling stations. This increase is largely due to rationalization of polling stations, which the Commission undertook during 2008 and 2009. Of these, as many as, 12,901 new polling stations have been setup for villages having less than 300 electors with a view to address concerns of threat and intimidation to voters. Commission has undertaken an exercise of 'Vulnerability Mapping' in all Constituencies to identify areas and voter segments vulnerable to threat and intimidation and has endeavored to provide polling stations in the vulnerable localities. Other considerations for making new polling stations include the need to reduce the distance required to be traveled by voters, geographical barriers such as rivers and hills etc. This exercise has been done in all the districts in consultation with political parties.

SCHEDULE

15. The Commission, after taking into account all relevant factors, has now finalized the Schedule for General Elections to be held in **five** phases to constitute the 15th Lok Sabha. A summary of the Schedules is given at **Statement-A**. An abstract of the schedules for all the States and Union Territories is given in two different formats at **Statement-B1** and **B2**. List of Constituencies for each of the Phases is given at **Statement-C**.

16. The **Highlights of the Schedules** are indicated below:

PHASES – GENERAL ELECTIONS-2009			
PHASE	NUMBER OF STATES & UNION TERRITORIES	NUMBER OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES	DATE OF POLL
1	17	124	16 th April, 2009 (Thursday)
2	13	141	23 rd April, 2009 (Thursday) (22 nd April-2009, Wednesday for 1-Inner Manipur PC only)
3	11	107	30 th April, 2009 (Thursday)
4	8	85	7 th May, 2009 (Thursday)
5	9	86	13 th May, 2009 (Wednesday)

NUMBER OF PHASES IN STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES	
NO. OF PHASES	STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES
FIVE	Jammu & Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh
FOUR	Bihar
THREE	Maharashtra and West Bengal
TWO	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Orissa and Punjab
ONE	Remaining 15 States and 7 Union Territories

17. Counting will take place on the **16th of May, 2009** and is expected to be completed on the same day.

18. The Commission has decided to forward its recommendations to the President, for issuing five notifications calling upon the Parliamentary Constituencies covered in each phase in the States and Union Territories concerned to elect members to the House of the People. With this, the campaign days for the Constituencies in each phase has been kept to the possible minimum.

GENERAL ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

19. The Commission has taken into account the fact that the tenure of the Legislative Assemblies of the states of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Sikkim will expire on 30.05.09, 29.06.09 and 23.05.09 respectively. It is also conscious of the fact that a new Assembly in Sikkim has to be constituted by 23rd May, 2009.

20. After taking into account all relevant factors, the Commission has decided to hold elections for new Legislative Assemblies for these states, simultaneously with the General Elections to the 15th Lok Sabha. Elections to the different Assembly Constituencies in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa will follow the **same Schedule** as for the corresponding Parliamentary Constituencies of which these are the relevant assembly segments. For elections to the Legislative Assembly of Sikkim, the **same schedule** as far the corresponding Parliamentary Constituency will be followed up to the date of counting and the date before which the election shall be completed is 23-May-09. The Commission has decided to forward its recommendations to the Governors of these three States, for issuing Notifications (under Section 15 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951), calling upon the State Legislative Assembly Constituencies to elect members to the concerned State Legislative Assemblies, as per Schedule appended hereto at **Statement-D**.

BYE ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES

21. There are a few casual vacancies in some Legislative Assemblies. The Commission has decided to hold by-elections to the following seven Assembly Constituencies which are listed below. Bye elections in these constituencies will be conducted following the **same schedule** as for the relevant Parliamentary Constituency.

STATE	NAME OF AC
Jharkhand	9-Jamtara
Karnataka	50-Bidar
Mizoram	29-South Tuipai
Nagaland	3-Dimapur-III(ST) 17-Chizami(ST) 41-Tizit(ST) 54-Tuensang Sadar-II(ST)

ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES

22. The Commission has decided to use Electronic Voting Machines in all the polling stations of the country as was done during the last Lok Sabha Election in 2004. There are 13, 68,430 EVMs available in the country. First Level Checking of these EVMs has already been taken up in all the states/UTs and has been completed in many places.

23. As a measure to enhance transparency in allotment of EVMs to different constituencies and polling stations, the Commission has introduced a two stage randomization procedure– one by the District Election Officer involving representatives of the recognized political parties, immediately after the first level checking is over, for allotment of EVMs to different constituencies in the district, and then again at the level of Returning Officer involving the candidates or their election agents to randomly decide the specific polling stations in which each of the EVM bearing unique identification number will be used.

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

24. Consequent on the announcement of the Schedule for the General Elections through this Press Note, the **Model Code of Conduct** for the Guidance of Political Parties and Candidates comes into operation with immediate effect from **today itself** in the entire country. This will be applicable to all political parties and to the Union and State and Union Territory Governments. The Commission calls upon all the political parties, candidates and the Union and State and Union Territory governments to strictly adhere to the Model Code of Conduct, which is a unique document, evolved with the consensus of political parties in the country.

REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

25. In terms of the existing policy of the Commission regarding **Registration of New Political Parties**, processing of any fresh applications filed hereafter for their registration would remain suspended with immediate effect till completion of the election process on 28th May, 2009.

AFFIDAVITS BY CANDIDATES

26. All the candidates will be required to file **two** affidavits along with their nomination papers. The affidavits will include information on the criminal antecedents of the candidate, assets (including the moveable and immoveable properties of the candidate, spouse and dependents), liabilities of the candidate and his/her educational qualifications. The filing of the affidavits is mandatory and its non-filing will result in the rejection of the nomination paper by the Returning Officer.

27. As part of the efforts of the Commission to disseminate the information contained in the affidavits to the citizens at the earliest, instructions have been issued to the Returning Officers to display the copies of these affidavits on notice-board and to make available, on demand, the copies of the affidavits freely to other candidates, general public, media, etc. on the very day of filing of affidavits by a candidate. The copies of these affidavits

will also be available in a compiled form with the District Election Officer concerned. Any individual or any civil society organization desirous of obtaining this compiled information can apply to the District Election Officer with a nominal payment towards copying charges.

28. The Commission appeals to the citizens, the media and all the interested parties to cooperate with the election authorities for the widest dissemination of this information as contemplated in the directions of the Courts and the Commission.

ACCOUNTS OF CANDIDATES

29. It is mandatory under the election law for every contesting candidate to maintain and furnish accounts of his election expenditure. Under Section 77 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 only the expenses on account of **travel** of 'leaders' of political party concerned (whose names are communicated to the Commission and the CEO of the state within the prescribed period of 7 days from the date of notification) will be exempted from being included in the account of expenses of a candidate. All other expenses – incurred/authorized by the political parties, other associations, body of persons, individuals – are required to be included in the account of the candidate.

30. The Commission has already issued detailed guidelines on the manner in which accounts are to be maintained and submitted by the candidates and it is incumbent upon them to maintain a daily account of expenditure and to submit it to the Designated Officer/Election Observer three times during campaign period. To strengthen the monitoring, the Commission will be taking special steps. A cell comprising of experts drawn from Income Tax Department will also be set up in the Commission to deal with information on poll expenses of the candidates.

31. The Commission has taken a serious note of the illegal use of money power in elections and violation of expenditure norms in various manners and has decided to track such incidents closely for follow-up action.

VOTER PARTICIPATION

32. The Election Commission of India in recent years has initiated various measures to streamline the process of voter registration. The Booth Level Officer system has helped in enrolling the eligible voters and in detecting and removing the names of the dead and shifted voters. The Commission hereby calls upon all the registered voters of the country to participate in the voting process and exercise their constitutional right to vote. Wider voter-participation will make the democracy in India more vibrant and deepen its roots more strongly. The Commission has directed the CEOs to take certain voter-friendly initiatives, like voter help-line, voter assistance booths near polling stations, web-based search facilities to locate the names in the voter list and so on. The Commission has also issued guidelines to the CEOs to take special measures to facilitate voting by the physically challenged voters.

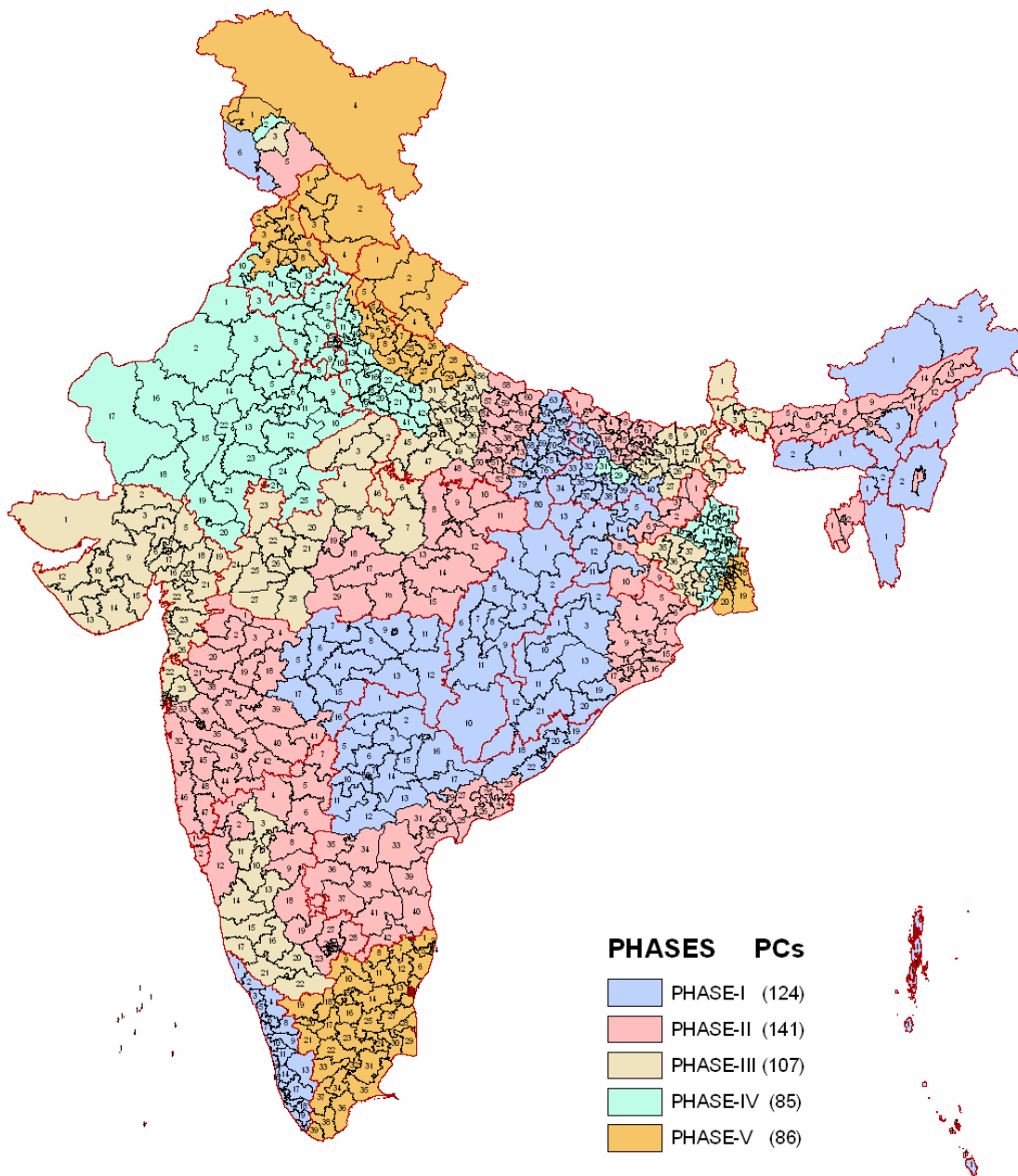
33. The Commission recognizes and acknowledges the role of media and civil society organizations in aiding the election machinery in the successful conduct of elections. The Commission looks forwards to their total support and feedback that could help mid-course interventions.

34. Elections in India in terms of its scale, magnitude and complexities are the largest and most vigorous democratic exercise in the world. The Commission is confident that all the stake-holders – the political parties, the candidates, the voting public and the entire election machinery, will fully appreciate the need for restraint and discipline to ensure free, fair and peaceful elections. The time tested credibility of electoral system is our nation's pride. The Commission is fully committed and will strive hard to uphold and add strength to the deeply-rooted democratic traditions of our nation.



(R.BALAKRISHNAN)
Deputy Election Commissioner

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA GENERAL ELECTIONS - 2009 POLL SCHEDULE



ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

GENERAL ELECTIONS - 2009

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULES

Sl. No.	Poll Event	Schedule Numbers & Dates								
		1	2A	2B	3A	3B	3C	4	5A	5B
1	Announcement & Issue of Press Note	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)	02-Mar-2009 (Monday)
2	Issue of Notification	23-Mar-2009 (Monday)	28-Mar-2009 (Saturday)	28-Mar-2009 (Saturday)	02-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	02-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	02-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	11-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	17-Apr-2009 (Friday)	17-Apr-2009 (Friday)
3	Last Date for filing Nominations	30-Mar-2009 (Monday)	04-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	04-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	09-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	09-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	09-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	18-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	24-Apr-2009 (Friday)	24-Apr-2009 (Friday)
4	Scrutiny of Nominations	31-Mar-2009 (Tuesday)	06-Apr-2009 (Monday)	06-Apr-2009 (Monday)	11-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	10-Apr-2009 (Friday)	10-Apr-2009 (Friday)	20-Apr-2009 (Monday)	25-Apr-2009 (Saturday)	25-Apr-2009 (Saturday)
5	Last date for withdrawal of Candidature	2-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	08-Apr-2009 (Wednesday)	08-Apr-2009 (Wednesday)	13-Apr-2009 (Monday)	15-Apr-2009 (Wednesday)	13-Apr-2009 (Monday)	22-Apr-2009 (Wednesday)	27-Apr-2009 (Monday)	28-Apr-2009 (Tuesday)
6	Date of Poll	16-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	22-Apr-2009 (Wednesday)	23-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	30-Apr-2009 (Thursday)	30-April-2009 (Thursday)	30-April-2009 (Thursday)	07-May-2009 (Thursday)	13-May-2009 (Wednesday)	13-May-2009 (Wednesday)
7	Counting of Votes on	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)	16-May-2009 (Saturday)
8	Date before which the election shall be Completed	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)	28-May-2009 (Thursday)
	Number of States/UTs	17	1	12	6	1	4	8	8	1
	Number of Parliamentary Constituencies	124	1	140	77	1	29	85	72	14

NOTE:

- Schedule 2A in only for Manipur (separate schedule was required due to holiday on 23-Apr-2009)
- Schedule 3B is only for Jammu & Kashmir (separate schedule was required due to holidays on 13 and 14-Apr, 2009)
- Schedule 3C is only for Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Sikkim (separate schedule was required since 10-Apr, 2009 is not a holiday in these States but is a holiday in other States in this phase)
- Schedule 5B is only for Uttar Pradesh (separate schedule was required due to holiday on 27-Apr, 2009)

Election Commission Of India

General Elections, 2009

Parliamentary Constituencies in different Schedules for each State and UT

JHARKHAND

Schedule No. 2B

Date of Issue of Notification: 28-Mar-09
Last Date for making Nominations: 04-Apr-09
Date of Scrutiny of Nominations: 06-Apr-09
Last Date of Withdrawal of 08-Apr-09

Date of Poll: **23-Apr-09**
Date of Counting: **16-May-09**

*Date before which election
shall be completed:* **28-May-09**

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

NO.	NAME	TYPE
1 .	Rajmahal	ST
2 .	Dumka	ST
3 .	Godda	GEN
6 .	Giridih	GEN
7 .	Dhanbad	GEN
8 .	Ranchi	GEN
9 .	Jamshedpur	GEN
10 .	Singhbhum	ST

Total no. of PCs having this Schedule: 8

Election Commission Of India

General Elections, 2009

Parliamentary Constituencies in different Schedules for each State and UT

UTTARAKHAND

Schedule No. 5A

Date of Issue of Notification: 17-Apr-09
Last Date for making Nominations: 24-Apr-09
Date of Scrutiny of Nominations: 25-Apr-09
Last Date of Withdrawal of 27-Apr-09

Date of Poll: **13-May-09**
Date of Counting: **16-May-09**

*Date before which election
shall be completed:* **28-May-09**

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

NO.	NAME	TYPE
1 .	Tehri Garhwal	GEN
2 .	Garhwal	GEN
3 .	Almora	SC
4 .	Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar	GEN
5 .	Hardwar	GEN

Total no. of PCs having this Schedule: 5

Election Commission Of India

General Elections, 2009

Parliamentary Constituencies in different Schedules for each State and UT

UTTARAKHAND

Schedule No. 5A

Date of Issue of Notification: 17-Apr-09
Last Date for making Nominations: 24-Apr-09
Date of Scrutiny of Nominations: 25-Apr-09
Last Date of Withdrawal of 27-Apr-09

Date of Poll: **13-May-09**
Date of Counting: **16-May-09**

*Date before which election
shall be completed:* **28-May-09**

PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY

NO.	NAME	TYPE
1 .	Tehri Garhwal	GEN
2 .	Garhwal	GEN
3 .	Almora	SC
4 .	Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar	GEN
5 .	Hardwar	GEN

Total no. of PCs having this Schedule: 5

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE GUIDANCE OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES AND CANDIDATES

1. General Conduct

- (1) No party or candidate shall indulge in any activity which may aggravate existing differences or create mutual hatred or cause tension between different castes and communities, religious or linguistic.
- (2) Criticism of other political parties, when made, shall be confined to their policies and programme, past record and work. Parties and Candidates shall refrain from criticism of all aspects of private life, not connected with the public activities of the leaders or workers of other parties. Criticism of other parties or their workers based on unverified allegations or distortion shall be avoided.
- (3) There shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes. Mosques, Churches, Temples or other places of worship shall not be used as forum for election propaganda.
- (4) All parties and candidates shall avoid scrupulously all activities which are “corrupt practices” and offences under the election law, such as bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters, canvassing within 100 metres of polling stations, holding public meetings during the period of 48 hours ending with the hour fixed for the close of the poll, and the transport and conveyance of voters to and from polling station.
- (5) The right of every individual for peaceful and undisturbed home-life shall be respected, however much the political parties or candidates may resent his political opinions or activities. Organising demonstrations or picketing

before the houses of individuals by way of protesting against their opinions or activities shall not be resorted to under any circumstances.

- (6) No Political Party or candidate shall permit its or his followers to make use of any individual's land, building, compound wall etc., without his permission, for erecting flag-staffs, suspending banners, pasting notices, writing slogans etc.
- (7) Political parties and candidates shall ensure that their supporters do not create obstructions in or break up meetings and processions organised by other parties. Workers or sympathisers of one political party shall not create disturbances at public meetings organised by another political party by putting questions orally or in writing or by distributing leaflets of their own party. Processions shall not be taken out by one party along places at which meetings are being held by another party. Posters issued by one party shall not be removed by workers of another Party.

II. Meetings

- (1) The Party or candidate shall inform the local police authorities of the venue and time any proposed meeting well in time so as to enable the police to make necessary arrangements for controlling traffic and maintaining peace and order.
- (2) A Party or candidate shall ascertain in advance if there are any restrictive or prohibitory orders in force in the place proposed for the meeting. If such orders exist, they shall be followed strictly. If any exemption is required from such orders, it shall be applied for and obtained well in time.
- (3) If permission or licence is to be obtained for the use of loudspeakers or any other facility in connection with any proposed meeting, the Party or

candidate shall apply to the authority concerned well in advance and obtain such permission or licence.

- (4) Organisers of a meeting shall invariably seek the assistance of the police on duty for dealing with persons disturbing a meeting or otherwise attempting to create disorder. Organisers themselves shall not take action against such persons.

III. Processions

- (1) A Party or candidate organising a procession shall decide beforehand the time and place of the starting of the procession, the route to be followed and the time and place at which the procession will terminate. There shall ordinarily be no deviation from the programme.
- (2) The organisers shall give advance intimation to the local police authorities of the programme so as to enable the latter to make necessary arrangements.
- (3) The organisers shall ascertain if any restrictive orders are in force in the localities through which the procession has to pass, and shall comply with the restrictions unless exempted specially by the competent authority. Any traffic regulations or restrictions shall also be carefully adhered to.
- (4) The organisers shall take steps in advance to arrange for passage of the procession so that there is no block or hindrance to traffic. If the procession is very long, it shall be organised in segments of suitable lengths, so that at convenient intervals, especially at points where the procession has to pass road junctions, the passage of held up traffic could be allowed by stages thus avoiding heavy traffic congestion.

- (5) Processions shall be so regulated as to keep as much to the right of the road as possible and the direction and advice of the police on duty shall be strictly complied with.
- (6) If two or more political parties or candidates propose to take processions over the same route or parts thereof at about the same time, the organisers shall establish contact well in advance and decide upon the measures to be taken to see that the processions do not clash or cause hindrance to traffic. The assistance of the local police shall be availed of for arriving at a satisfactory arrangement. For this purpose the parties shall contact the police at the earliest opportunity.
- (7) The political parties or candidates shall exercise control to the maximum extent possible in the matter of processionists carrying articles which may be put to misuse by undesirable elements especially in moments of excitement.
- (8) The carrying of effigies purporting to represent members of other political parties or their leaders, burning such effigies in public and such other forms demonstration shall not be countenanced by any political party or candidate.

IV. Polling Day

All political parties and candidates shall –

- (i) co-operate with the officers on election duty to ensure peaceful and orderly polling and complete freedom to the voters to exercise their franchise without being subjected to any annoyance or obstruction.
- (ii) supply to their authorised workers suitable badges or identity cards;

- (iii) agree that the identity slips supplied by them to voters shall be on plain (white) paper and shall not contain any symbol, name of the candidate or the name of the Party;
- (iv) refrain from serving or distributing liquor on polling day and during the twenty-four hours preceding it;
- (v) not allow unnecessary crowd to be collected near the camps set up by the political parties and candidates near the polling booths so as to avoid confrontation and tension among workers and sympathisers of the parties and the candidate;
- (vi) ensure that the candidate's camps shall be simple. They shall not display any posters, flags, symbols or any other propaganda material. No eatables shall be served or crowd allowed at the camps; and
- (vii) co-operate with the authorities in complying with the restrictions to be imposed on the plying of vehicles on the polling day and obtain permits for them which should be displayed prominently on those vehicles.

V. Polling Booth:

Excepting the voters, no one without a valid pass from the Election Commission shall enter the polling booths.

VI Observers.

The Election Commission is appointing Observers. If the candidates or their agents have any specific complaint or problem regarding the conduct of elections they may bring the same to the notice of the Observer.

VII Party in power

The Party in power whether at the Centre or in the State or States concerned , shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that it has used its official position for the purposes of its election campaign and in particular –

(i) (a) The Ministers shall not combine their official visit with electioneering work and shall not also make use of official machinery or personnel during the electioneering work;

(b) Government transport including official air-crafts, vehicles, machinery and personnel shall not be used for furtherance of the interest of the party in power;

(ii) Public places such as maidans etc., for holding election meetings ,and use of helipads for air-flights in connection with elections shall not be monopolised by itself. Other parties and candidates shall be allowed the use of such places and facilities on the same terms and conditions on which they are used by the party in power;

(iii) Rest houses, dak bungalows or other Government accommodation shall not be monopolised by the party in power or its candidates and such accommodation shall be allowed to be used by other parties and candidates in a fair manner but no party or candidates shall use or be allowed to use such accommodation (including premises appertaining thereto) as a campaign office or for holding any public meeting for the purposes of election propaganda;

(iv) Issue of advertisement at the cost of public exchequer in the newspapers and other media and the misuse of official mass media during the

election period for partisan coverage of political news and publicity regarding achievements with a view to furthering the prospects of the party in power shall be scrupulously avoided.

- (v) Ministers and other authorities shall not sanction grants/payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced by the Commission; and
- (vi) From the time elections are announced by the Commission, Ministers and other authorities shall not –
 - (a) announce any financial grants in any form or promises thereof; or
 - (b) (except civil servants) lay foundation stones etc. of projects or schemes of any kind; or
 - (c) make any promise of construction of roads, provision of drinking water facilities etc.; or
 - (d) make any ad-hoc appointments in Government, Public Undertakings etc.

which may have the effect of influencing the voters in favour of the party in power.

Note : The Commission shall announce the date of any election which shall be a date ordinarily not more than three weeks prior to the date on which the notification is likely to be issued in respect of such elections.

- (vii) ministers of Central or State Government shall not enter any polling station or place of counting except in their capacity as a candidate or voter or authorised agent.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

General Elections -2009

NUMBER OF STATES/UTs VOTING IN DIFFERENT PHASES

STATES AND UTs	PCs	Phases	16-Apr-09	23-Apr-09	30-Apr-09	7-May-09	13-May-09
			PHASE1	PHASE2	PHASE3	PHASE4	PHASE5
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	1	1				
Arunachal Pradesh	2	1	2				
Chandigarh	1	1					1
Chhattisgarh	11	1	11				
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1			1		
Daman & Diu	1	1			1		
NCT of Delhi	7	1				7	
Goa	2	1		2			
Gujarat	26	1			26		
Haryana	10	1				10	
Himachal Pradesh	4	1					4
Kerala	20	1	20				
Lakshadweep	1	1	1				
Meghalaya	2	1	2				
Mizoram	1	1	1				
Nagaland	1	1	1				
Puducherry	1	1					1
Rajasthan	25	1				25	
Sikkim	1	1			1		
Tamil Nadu	39	1					39
Tripura	2	1		2			
Uttarakhand	5	1					5
Andhra Pradesh	42	2	22	20			
Assam	14	2	3	11			
Jharkhand	14	2	6	8			
Karnataka	28	2		17	11		
Madhya Pradesh	29	2		13	16		
Manipur	2	2	1	1			
Orissa	21	2	10	11			
Punjab	13	2				4	9
Maharashtra	48	3	13	25	10		
West Bengal	42	3			14	17	11
Bihar	40	4	13	13	11	3	
Jammu & Kashmir	6	5	1	1	1	1	2
Uttar Pradesh	80	5	16	17	15	18	14
Total	543		124	141	107	85	86
Total States/UTs Polling on this Day			17	13	11	8	9
No. of States and UTs polling in single phase							22
No. of States and UTs polling in two phases							8
No. of States and UTs polling in three phases							2
No. of States and UTs polling in four phases							1
No. of States and UTs polling in five phases							2
Total							35

* The Phase-2 polling in Manipur will take place on 22-Apr-09

Election Commission's Order No. 437/6/94/MCS-Vol V Dated: 20th October, 1994 to (1) The Cabinet Secretary Rastrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. 2. Secretary to the Govt of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi. 3. Secretary to the Govt of India, Ministry of Law, Justice & Company Affairs, New Delhi. 4. Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories 5. Chief Electoral Officers of all States and Union Territories.

Subject: Chartering of aircrafts and helicopters.

ORDER

The Commission has already issued instructions imposing a total and absolute ban on the use of official vehicles for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections.

2. It has been brought to the notice of the Commission that political parties are getting State/Public Sector Undertakings aircrafts/helicopters chartered through private companies etc. for electioneering in such a way that the other parties are put to a disadvantage. The commission has, therefore, directed that the procedure to be followed for chartering Government aircrafts/helicopters (including those owned by Public Sector Undertakings and Corporations) should be on an absolutely equitable basis and should be widely publicised. Some of the minimum conditions which should be included in the procedure to make it absolutely equitable are as under:-

- 2.1 There should be no discrimination between the ruling party on the one hand and the other parties and contesting candidates on the other.
- 2.2 The payment will be made by the political parties or the contesting candidates and proper record maintained.
- 2.3. The rates and terms and conditions should be uniform for all.
- 2.4 The actual allotment should be made on a first-come first-served basis. For this purpose, the date and time of receipt of the application should be noted down by the authorised receiving authority.
- 2.5 In the rare case when both the date and time of two or more applicants is the same, the allotment will be decided by draw of lots.
- 2.6 To obviate any contingency of rejection of an application for failure to mention certain particulars or on such other technical grounds, a format of the application should be prepared and made available to all those who want to avail of the facility.
- 2.7 No individual, firm, party or candidate will be allowed to charter the aircraft/helicopter for more than three days at a time. Any application which does not conform to this requirement shall be rejected.

Election Commission's Order No. 437/6/96/PLN-III/, Dated : 15 January, 1996.

ORDER

Subject : General elections/bye elections - Prevention of misuse of 'official vehicles' during elections.

In the interest of preserving the purity of election process and rendering the same reflective of true choice of the people, the Commission has been issuing instructions and directions regarding the use of official vehicles. The Commission has been particularly concerned about the increasingly vitiating role of criminality and muscle power at elections and has been giving directions for taking a number of measures for ensuring peaceful, free and fair poll.

2. The Commission has now decided that the following shall be standing instructions for all general/bye elections to the Lok Sabha, and in State Legislative Assemblies. This will be equally applicable to all biennial/bye elections from Graduates' and Teachers' constituencies of Legislative councils in the concerned States. These shall be in supersession of all earlier instructions on the subject.

3. These instructions shall come into effect from the date of announcement of elections till the completion of elections.

4. For the purpose of these instructions vehicles means, and shall include, any vehicles used or capable of being used for the purpose of transport, whether propelled by mechanical power or otherwise and will include trucks, lorries, tempos, jeeps, cars, autorickshaws, buses, belonging to the (1) Central Government, (2) State Government, (3) Public Undertakings of the Central and State Government, (4) Joint Sector Undertakings of Central and State Government, (5) Local Bodies, (6) Municipal Corporations, (7) Municipalities, (8) Marketing Boards, (by whatever name known) (9) Cooperative Societies, (10) Autonomous district councils or any other body in which public funds, howsoever small a portion of the total are invested and also include those belonging to the Ministry of Defence and the Central Public Organisations under the Ministry of Home Affairs and State Government.

5. The Commission directs that there shall be a total and absolute ban on the use of official vehicles for campaigning, electioneering or election related travel during elections. There shall be a total prohibition on the use of any vehicles such as helicopters, aircrafts, (except as regulated by the Commission's order on the subject) cars, jeeps, in automobiles, boat, hovercrafts, etc., belonging to the (i) Central Government, (ii) State Government, (iii) Public undertakings of the Central and State Government, (iv) Joint sector undertakings Central and State Government, (v) Local bodies, (vi) Marketing boards, (vii) Co-operative societies, (viii) Autonomous District Councils or any other body in which public funds, however, portion of the total, are invested for any purpose connected with the elections, by any political party, candidate or any other person connected with election.

It is clarified that the ban on the use of vehicles will equally apply to the vehicle in or from any States not going to the polls but whose vehicles are attempted to be used for campaign either openly or clandestinely in any other State going to poll. The Chief Secretary of each State/Union Territory will be personally responsible for preventing misuse of any vehicle within his State and the Secretary to the Government of India in the concerned Department will be personally responsible for any misuse of any vehicle under Ministry/Department and also belonging to any of the public sector or joint sector undertakings or Autonomous Bodies or attached and offices under that Ministry/Department. The officers under whose charge such vehicles are entrusted will also be equally responsible for any violation.

7. The use of such vehicles belonging to any of these authorities by anyone including Ministers of the Central or a State Government, even on payment, for campaigning or on tours connected with elections but with the alleged and bogusly certified purpose of election work in their capacity as Ministers is totally prohibited. The only exception from the prohibition will be the Prime Minister and other political personalities who might, in view of extremist and terrorist activities and threat to their lives, require security of a high order and whose security requirements are governed by any statutory provisions made by Parliament or the State Legislature in this behalf. The above restrictions shall also not apply in the case of President and Vice-President of India, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha and such other dignitaries visiting the State from other States. In the case of Speaker, Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha and Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha these restrictions will be applicable at the time of General Elections to the Lok Sabha. It is, however, clarified that such exceptions shall not be made in respect of any Ministers of the Union or any State Government.

7. (a) The Commission would like to make it clear that if it has any material to doubt that the assessment of security requirements made by the authorities under Special Protection Group Act, 1988 or any other special enactment/instruction of the Government have been manifestly or unduly excessive with the intention of promoting indirectly the electoral interests of a particular party or candidate, the Commission will bring the matter to the notice of the concerned Government for immediate and appropriate corrective steps.

7. (b) For this purpose, the Commission may call for any information from the Central Government or the State Government concerned with regard to the assessment of the security requirements made in respect of any such personality. Such information shall be furnished to the Commission by the concerned government forthwith.

8. The Commission further directs that cars/vehicles shall, under no circumstances, be allowed to move in convoys of more than three vehicles. All bigger convoys shall be broken up, even if they are carrying any Minister of Central or State Government or any other person. This shall, however, be subject to any security instructions issued in respect of any such individual.

9. The Commission further directs that from the date of announcement of elections till the completion of elections, the District Administration shall keep a close watch on the use of all the abovementioned vehicles to see whether any such vehicles is being misused for

electioneering for, or by, any candidate. If it is found that any of the abovementioned vehicles of Central Government or State Government, including those of public sector undertakings or local bodies is being used for electioneering purposes, the District Magistrate shall, forthwith, requisition or cause to be requisitioned such vehicles, after following due procedure, for election work, to be used by officers performing election related duties under Section 160 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. The vehicles so requisitioned shall not be released until after the completion of the process of elections.

10. The above directions of the Commission are issued under the powers conferred on it by Article 324 of the Constitution and all other powers enabling it in that behalf.

11. This should be brought to the notice of all concerned. A copy of this order in English/Hindi and any local official language(s) shall be made available to the units of all recognised National and State political parties and to each candidate or the agent authorised by him, at the time of his nomination(s) (repeat nomination and not scrutiny of nomination) under acknowledgement.

Commission's letter No. 437/6/96/PLN-III/Dated : 17 January, 1996 to addressed
the Chief Secretary (All States & Union Territories) Repeat The Chief Electoral Officers
All States & Union Territories)

Subject : General Elections - Tours of Ministers.

I am directed to state that the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India vide their Circular No.10/17/89-M & G, dated November 1, 1989 have reproduced the summary of their instructions on the tour of Ministers in connection with the election campaign. These instructions inter alia lay down some specific formalities to be observed separately for official and private tours of the Ministers of Government of India during the period of electioneering particularly in the context of the fact that such tours generally overlap. A copy of the abovementioned circular of the Ministry of Home Affairs dated November 1, 1989 is enclosed at Annexure I.

2. The Commission has been keenly watching the observance of the aforesaid instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs by the Ministers both of Central Government and of the Government of State in which elections are held, as well as some other neighbouring and other State whose Ministers pay visits to the States having elections during the period of electioneering. The Commission is constrained to observe that not only the spirit and letter of the aforesaid instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs are vague, equivocal and permissive in nature, they are flouted with impunity and misused with flagrant disregard to the image of impartiality which persons in high public office must cultivate and preserve during the period of election in order to maintain the purity of the election process and insultate the free right of franchise to be exercised by the voters from the manipulative tactics of the privileged ruling party both at Centre and in the State Governments.

3. During the elections superintended by the Commission in recent years the Commission has been at pains to observe that the Ministers in their capacity as Members of the ruling party at the Centre and in some States misused the government owned machinery including guest houses, and such like official infrastructures for the ostensible purpose of official visits for monitoring Government programmes with the covert intention of participating in the election campaign of their parties. Such Ministers are understandably accompanied, on the above described "official" visits, by functionaries of their political parties. No departmental officials are reported to be accompanying the Ministers on which visits and meetings as a result of which even semblance of an official visit is not maintained.

4. The Commission also observes with serious objection that local officers of the district administration and State Government who have also to perform statutory and other functions related to the conduct of elections are perforce made to attend on such Ministers in the name of administrative and security arrangements which further casts

a suspicion on the much needed independence and impartiality of the election related officers.

5. In the above circumstances, the Commission in exercise of the plenary powers vested in it by virtue of Article 324 of the Constitution and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, has decided to issue its own directions in the interest of fair and free poll.

6. These instructions of the Commission do not in any way over-ride, modify or are affected by the instructions of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India No. 10/17/89-M&G dated 1st November, 1989 referred to above. The Commission directs in supersession of its earlier instructions, as follows:-

6.1 Henceforth no Minister either of Central or State Government shall undertake an official visit of any constituency from which elections have been announced by the Commission during the period commencing with the announcement of the elections upto the end of the election process.

6.2 The Commission also directs that no Minister will summon any election related officer of the constituency or the State in which any elections have been announced, to a place or office or guest house outside the aforesaid constituency for any official discussions during the period of elections commencing with the announcement of the elections from such constituency and ending with the completion of election process.

6.3 The only exception to these instructions will be when a Minister, in his capacity as incharge of the concerned department, or a Chief Minister undertakes an official visit to a constituency, or summons any election related officers of this constituency to a place outside the constituency, in connection with failure of law and order or a natural calamity or any such emergency which requires personal presence of such Ministers/Chief Ministers for the specific purpose of supervising review/salvage/relief and such like purpose.

7. It is clarified that the Ministers are entitled to use their official vehicles in there headquarters from their place of residence to their office for official work provided that such commuting is not combined with any electioneering or any political activity.

8. Any violation of these instructions will be viewed as gross infringement not only of the Model code of Conduct but also of the authority of the Commission to promulgate such directions as it considers necessary to ensure peaceful, fair and free poll reflective of the true choice of the people, and will be visited with grave consequences as considered appropriate by the Commission on the merits of the specific circumstances.

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA

Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. 437/7/2004-PLN III

Dated 29th February 2004

To

The Cabinet Secretary
Government of India
Rashtrapati Bhawan
New Delhi

The Secretary to the Government of India
Department of Programme Implementation
New Delhi

The Chief Secretaries to the Governments of
all States and Union Territories

The Chief Electoral Officers of
all States and Union Territories

General Elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative
Assemblies of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and
Sikkim- Release of funds under MPs' /MLAs' Local
Areas Development Scheme

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Commission's Press Note dated 29th February, 2004 where the Commission had announced the operation of the Model Code of Conduct for the Guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates.

2. The Commission has considered the release of funds under the Member of Parliament Local Areas Development Schemes and has decided that-

- i. No fresh release of funds under the Member of Parliament (including nominated members of Rajya Sabha) Local Areas Development fund shall be made in any part of the country till the completion of election process.. Similarly. no fresh release of funds under the MLAs'/MLCs' Local Areas Development Fund shall be

Imp
ACED
nd to all DEs / Cans /
CJ/ACS/ All states / other.
NW
(एन. रवि शंकर)
एन एवं मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी
उत्तरांचल

made, if any, such scheme is in operation, till the completion of election process.

- ii. No Work may be started for which the work order had been issued before the issue of this letter but the work has actually not started in the field. These can be started after the completion of election process.
- iii. However, if the work has actually started, this can continue. There should be no bar to the release of payments for completed work subject to the full satisfaction of the concerned officials.

Yours faithfully,


(A.K. Majumdar)
Secretary